

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

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PRESS RELEASE

Proposal for a directive on the duty-free entry of
fuel in the tanks of road vehicles

The Commission has recently sent the EEC Council a proposal for a directive for the harmonization of arrangements on the free entry of fuel in the tanks of commercial vehicles.

On 13 May 1965, when the Council took a decision on the harmonization of certain arrangements affecting competition in transport by rail, road and inland waterways, it decided among other things that the arrangements for the free entry of fuel in the tanks of road vehicles would be aligned on 1 January 1967.

Italy and the Benelux countries already allow free entry for fuel in the normal tanks of vehicles - the ultimate solution envisaged for 1 January 1970 by the proposed directive. Meanwhile, in order to reduce the difficulties of an immediate adjustment of the stricter regulations in France and Germany, an intermediary stage beginning 1 January 1967 has been fixed during which up to 200 litres of fuel will be admitted free.

The implementing measures envisaged will facilitate crossing at frontiers between Member States, taking into account the increase in the volume of intra-Community trade and the consequent growth in international road traffic. They fit in with the general aims of the Treaty as regards the establishment of a common market with features similar to those of a domestic market.

This proposed directive will have to be submitted to the Economic and Social Committee and to the European Parliament for consultation.

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